

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 EB-08 OES-09 HEW-04 COME-00
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /046 W
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P 031503Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5549

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DEPT PASS USDA

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: EAGR, DR
SUB: AFRICAN SWINE FEVER BRIEFING FOR PRESIDENT BALAGUER

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 4096,

1. FOLLOWING ON BRIEFING GIVEN TO PRESIDENT ELECT GUZMAN (REFTEL), EMBASSY WAS ASKED BY PRESIDENT BALAGUER FOR BRIEFING ON STATUS OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER PROBLEM IN D.R. MEETING TOOK PLACE 10:30 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT, JULY 31, ATTENDED BY AGATTS, USDA VETERINARY TEAM, AND EC/COUNSELOR, AND ON GODR SIDE BY PRESIDENT, SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR LIVESTOCK.

2. BALAGUER'S PRIME INTEREST WAS IN OBTAINING ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION AND U.S. RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO POLICIES GODR SHOULD FOLLOW IN DEALING WITH DISEASE. USDA TEAM REPEATEDLY NOTED THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO OFFER TECHNICAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE BUT NOT OVERALL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS. DISCUSSION THEN FOCUSED ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF A LIMITED DEPOPULATION PROGRAM AND RELATED CONTROL/DISINFECTING ACTIVITIES. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN MOVING SOME SWINE FOUND FREE OF DISEASE TO ONE OR MORE OF THE SMALL ISLANDS OFF THE
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SOUTHERN COAST OF THE D.R. IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE EXISTENCE OF INDIGENOUS BREEDING STOCK FOR REPOPULATION. THIS CONCEPT WAS NOT ENCOURAGED BY THE U.S. TEAM, FOR ECONOMIC AND HEALTH REASONS. SECRETARY OF LIVESTOCK ADVISED PRESIDENT OF GODR CONTROL PROGRAM TO BE MADE PUBLIC
AUGUST 1 INVOLVING: TOTAL DEPOPULATION AND BURIAL OF SWINE IN INFECTED AREAS (SOUTHWESTERN AND SOUTHERN PROVINCES AND

EASTERN PROVINCE OF LA ALTAGRACIA); DEPOPULATION, BURIAL AND
DISINFECTATION OF A 15 KILOMETER WIDE STRIP ALONG THE COMPLETE
LENGTH OF THE HAITIAN FRONTIER ZONE (HE INDICATED THAT HAITIAN
GOV'T HAS AGREED TO SIMILAR ACTION ON THEIR SIDE OF BORDER);
AND COMPENSATION FOR ANIMALS KILLED AND BURIED.

3. BALAGUER EXPRESSED DEEP GRATITUDE TO U.S. TEAM FOR
ITS EFFORTS IN HELPING COMBAT SWINE FEVER IN D.R. SAYING
THAT THEY HAVE EARNED A PLACE IN DOMINICAN HISTORY.
YOST

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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